

REMARKS

Claims 1-54 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 3, 9 and 28 are amended. No new matter is added.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 2-27 and 29-54, they being allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the features of their base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 2-27 and 29-54, as well as the remaining pending claims, are in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed below.

II. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by JP 2000-092766A to Umeda et al. (Umeda). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Umeda fails to disclose each and every feature recited in the rejected claims as originally filed, or as amended. For example, Umeda fails to disclose a segment joined armature for a multi-phase *ac* machine comprising an armature core having slots, q (= integer greater than or equal to two) for each pole in each phase, the slots being arrayed in a circumferential direction of said armature core; and an armature winding made up of m (= integer greater than or equal to three) phase coils, each of the phase coils being made up of a first phase winding and a second phase winding which are identical in number of turns and extending in opposite winding directions, wherein each of the first and second phase windings is made up of at least one wave winding segment and lap winding segments joined alternately, . . . disposed in two of the slots of said armature core located at a given interval away from each other, and a pair of joint end portions extending from ends of the leg portions, s (= integer greater than or equal to four) of the leg portions being arrayed within each of the slots of said armature core in a radius direction of said armature core, each of the joint end portions of each of the conductor segments being joined to one of the joint end

portions of another of the conductor segments to make each of the first and second phase windings, . . . and wherein an end of the first phase winding and an end of the second phase winding are formed by two of the leg portions of the conductor segments which are disposed adjacent to each other in the radius direction within the same one of the slots of said armature core and which lead to two first terminal leads, and the other end of the first phase winding and the other end of the second phase winding are formed by two of the leg portions of the conductor segments which are disposed adjacent to each other in the radius direction within the same one of the slots of said armature core and which lead to two second terminal leads, as recited in claim 1, or the corresponding features recited in independent claim 28.

Umeda relates to a stator of an AC generator for a vehicle that includes a stator core having a plurality of stators and a stator winding formed by connecting a plurality of electric conductors mounted on the stator core. (English-Language Abstract of Umeda.)

Applicants remind the Examiner that when relying on a foreign language document in support of a rejection, "if the document is in a language other than English and the Examiner seeks to rely on that document, a translation must be obtained so that the record is clear as to the precise facts the Examiner is relying upon in support of the rejection" (Emphasis added). As recited in MPEP §706.02, the rationale for requiring an English-Language Translation recognizes that the full text document may include teachings away from the invention that will preclude a rejection when the Abstract alone appears to support the rejection. In this case, the Abstract recites that the electric conductor forming a part of the lap winding 311, 313 and the electric conductor forming part of the wave winding 312, 324 are disposed inside one slot. However, it appears that this description is incorrectly relied upon to provide a basis of rejecting claims 1 and 28.

For example, Figs. 4 and 5 of Umeda illustrate the first phase winding and Figs. 6 and 7 of Umeda illustrate the second phase winding. The end of the first phase winding,

expressed by X1 in Fig. 4, extends out of the number one slot in the second layer. A corresponding end of the second phase winding, identical in direction of current flow with the first phase winding, is expressed by reference number XX4 in Fig. 6 and leads to the first layer wire in the number one, or same, slot.

However, the other end of the first phase winding, expressed by reference number XX3 in Fig. 5, connects with the third layer wire in the number 34 slot. The corresponding other end of the second phase winding is expressed by X2 in Fig. 7 and extends out of the fourth layer in the number 4 slot. Thus, as clearly shown in the figures of Umeda, the reference fails to disclose "the other end of the second phase windings are formed by two of the leg portions of the conductor segments which are disposed adjacent to each other in the radius direction within the same one of the slots of the armature core and which lead to two second terminal leads." Accordingly, Umeda fails to disclose each and every feature recited in the rejected claims. Specifically, Umeda fails to disclose the above-described feature recited in the original unamended claims. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is respectfully requested.

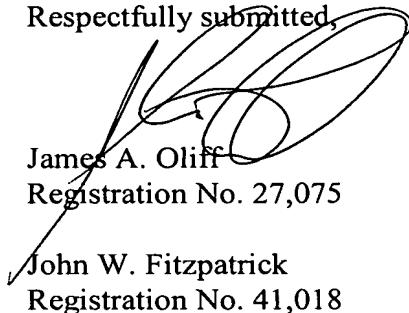
III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-54 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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